



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification : Not classified		(11) International Publication Number: WO 98/34458
A2		(43) International Publication Date: 13 August 1998 (13.08.98)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/02624 (22) International Filing Date: 10 February 1998 (10.02.98) (30) Priority Data: 08/799,691 11 February 1997 (11.02.97) US (71)(72) Applicant and Inventor: POWELL, Ken, R. [US/US]; Productive Technologies, Inc., Suite 203, 957 Baxter Street, Athens, GA 30606 (US). (74) Agent: JACKSON, Jerome, D.; Law Office of Jerome D. Jackson, Suite 100, 211 N. Union Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 (US).		(81) Designated States: AU, CA, JP, MX, NO, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published Without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report.
(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DISTRIBUTING AND PROCESSING DISCOUNT COUPONS		
(57) Abstract <p>A system for dispensing and redeeming electronic discount coupons in a store. A card-dispensing kiosk collects information from a customer and subsequently issues a "smart card" for storing electronic coupons. Upon completion of shopping, the customer redeems the electronic coupons at the check-out area, by inserting the card into the check-out station. During checkout, when UPC product data corresponds to coupons stored on the card, the customer is credited with the value of the corresponding coupon.</p>		
<pre> graph TD 10[RECEIVE CUSTOMER DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION] --> 20[RECEIVE CUSTOMER COUPON SELECTION] 20 --> 30[STORE CUSTOMER INFORMATION IN ASSOCIATION WITH CARD IDENTIFIER] 30 --> 40[WRITE COUPONS ONTO CARD FROM STORAGE BIN] 40 --> 50[EJECT CARD FROM STORAGE BIN] 50 --> 55[SELECT PRODUCTS] 55 --> 65[REDEEM COUPONS BY READING CARD RAM] 65 --> 75[INSERT CARD IN COUPON DISPENSER TO WRITE ADDITIONAL COUPONS INTO CARD RAM] 75 --> 55 </pre>		